

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method of delivering digital media items to ~~a plurality of one or more users~~user electronic devices, the method comprising;
delivering to one or more of the usersuser electronic devices, via a computer network, the digital media items in a sequential order from a playlist, the playlist ~~defining~~indicating a plurality of the digital media items to be delivered and the sequential order for their delivery to one or more of the user electronic devices;
receiving ~~a one or more~~ requests for at least one digital media item from one or more of the ~~users~~user electronic devices; and
selectively adding an indication of the requested digital media item to the playlist on at least one of the user electronic devices if the modified playlist would satisfy a set of restrictive criteria.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of restrictive criteria comprises whether the playlist satisfies a set of group preferences.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the adding comprises inserting a requested media item at a random position in the playlist.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the adding comprises:
attempting to add the requested media item to a position in the playlist so that
the modified playlist satisfies the set of restrictive criteria; and
disregarding the request if the requested media item cannot be added to the playlist so that the modified playlist would satisfy the set of restrictive criteria.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the set of restrictive criteria comprises whether the playlist complies with the Digital Millennium Copyright Act requirement for obtaining a statutory license.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the delivering media items comprises broadcasting media items to one or more of the users~~user~~ electronic devices so that fewer than a substantial number of media items are delivered within an hour of when their corresponding request was received.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the delivering media items further comprises broadcasting media items to one or more of the users~~user~~ electronic devices so that fewer than a substantial number of media items are delivered at a time that at least one of the user electronic devices who made the request is informed the requested media items will be delivered.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the delivering media items comprises broadcasting media items to one or more of the users~~user~~ electronic devices so that the media items are delivered in compliance with the Digital Millennium Copyright Act requirement for obtaining a statutory license.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
providing a searchable database of media items that allows ~~a~~at least one of the
user electronic devices to search the database by a set of media
attributes;
receiving a request from one or more of the user electronic devices for a media
item from the database; and
selectively adding the requested media item from the database to the playlist if
the modified playlist would satisfy the set of restrictive criteria.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the adding comprises limiting the number of requests from ~~a~~ at least one of the user electronic devices.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the media items are sound recordings.
12. (Withdrawn) A computer implemented method of interactively delivering media over a computer network from a media server to a plurality of clients, the method comprising:
generating a playlist that defines a plurality of media files in an order, the
playlist satisfying a set of restrictive criteria;
sequentially transmitting the media files as defined by the playlist over the
computer network to the clients;
receiving a request for a media file from a client; and
scheduling the requested media file into the playlist if the updated playlist
would satisfy the restrictive criteria, whereby the media files are
transmitted to the clients according to the updated playlist.
13. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, wherein the set of restrictive criteria comprises whether the playlist satisfies a set of group references.
14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, wherein the scheduling comprises adding requested media files into the playlist so that fewer than a substantial number of media files will be transmitted within an hour of receiving the corresponding request, or at a time that a client is informed that the requested media file will be transmitted.
15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein the scheduling comprises adding requested media files into the playlist so that at least one media file will be transmitted within an hour of receiving the corresponding request.
16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, wherein the media files represent sound recordings.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
providing a searchable database of media files, wherein a client can search the
database according to a set of media file attributes and request a specific
media file therefrom; and
scheduling the requested specific media file into the playlist if the updated
playlist would satisfy the set of restrictive criteria.
18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, wherein the media server comprises a
computer system having a memory, the method further comprising:
maintaining the playlist in the memory of the media server.
19. (Withdrawn) A computer implemented method of delivering media over a computer
network to multiple users comprising:
broadcasting streaming media on a channel according to a broadcasting
schedule, wherein multiple users can access the channel and the media
broadcasted thereon;
receiving a plurality of requests for media from one or more users; and
incorporating the requested media into the streaming media if doing so would
satisfy a set of restrictive criteria.
20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 19, wherein the broadcasting comprises delivering
fewer than a substantial number of requested media within an hour of receiving the
corresponding request, or at a time that the requesting user is informed that the requested
media will be broadcast.
21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 19, wherein streaming media is streaming audio.
22. (Withdrawn) A computer implemented method of delivering media over a computer
network from a media provider to multiple users, the method comprising:

broadcasting a specific program of media on each of a plurality of channels,
wherein multiple users can access each channel and thereby receive the
program broadcasted thereon;
receiving from a user a request for media corresponding to one of the channels;
and
incorporating the requested media into the corresponding channel's program if
the modified program would satisfy a set of restrictive criteria, the
restrictive criteria including a set of channel preferences unique between
at lest two channels.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein the incorporating comprises adding
the requested media into the corresponding channel's program so that fewer than a
substantial number of media will be broadcasted within an hour of receiving the
corresponding request or at a time that a user is informed that the requested media will be
broadcasted.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein the set of restrictive criteria
comprises a requirement that the program only incorporate requests originating from users
who have paid a fee to the media provider.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein the media is music.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~A One or more media server-servers~~ for delivering digital
media files to a plurality of ~~clients~~client electronic devices over a computer network, the one
or more media server-servers comprising:

a network connection for communicatively coupling one or more of the media
servers ~~to with the~~ a plurality of client electronic devices~~clients~~ over ~~a the~~
computer network;

a playlist memory containing a playlist, wherein the playlist ~~defines~~ indicates a sequential order to render a set of the digital media files ~~in a sequential order~~;

a media storage memory containing a library of the digital media files; and
a processor coupled ~~to~~ with the network connection, the playlist memory, and
the media storage memory, ~~wherein~~ the processor operative to:

~~evaluate~~ evaluate ~~each~~ requests for digital media files from one or
more of the client electronic devices using a set of restrictive
criteria,

~~upon if the playlist including~~ at least one of the requests would
satisfying the set of restrictive criteria, ~~adds~~ add an indication of
the requested digital media file to the playlist; and

~~transmits~~ transmit digital media files according to the sequential order
indicated by the playlist from the media storage memory to the
plurality of client electronic devices over the computer network.

27. (Currently Amended) The one or more media servers of claim 26, wherein the one or more media servers ~~broadcasts~~ broadcast fewer than a substantial number of digital media files within an hour of receiving the request for ~~the~~ a corresponding digital media file, or at a time that at least one client electronic device is informed that the requested digital media file will be broadcast.

28. (Currently Amended) The one or more media servers of claim 26, wherein the set of restrictive criteria comprise whether the playlist satisfies a set of group preferences.

29. (Currently Amended) The one or more media servers of claim 26, wherein the digital media files are digital sound files.

30. (Currently Amended) The one or more media servers of claim 26, wherein:

the playlist memory contains a plurality of playlists, each playlist corresponding to a network media channel;

the processor is adapted to receive requests for digital media files from the plurality of client electronic devices, each request being associated with a network media channel, wherein the processor evaluates each request using one or more restrictive criteria and, if the playlist including the requested digital media file would satisfy the set of restrictive criteria, adds the requested digital media file to the playlist; and

the one or more media servers ~~broadcasts~~ broadcast digital media files sequentially to the network on each of the plurality of network media channels according to each corresponding playlist.

31. (Currently Amended) The one or more media servers of claim 30, wherein, for each network media channel, the one or more media servers ~~broadcasts~~ broadcast fewer than a substantial number of digital media files within an hour of receiving at least one of the requests for the corresponding digital media file, or at a time that at least one of the client electronic devices ~~a client~~ is informed that the requested digital media file will be broadcast.

32. (Currently Amended) The one or more media servers of claim 30, wherein the set of restrictive criteria comprises a set of group preferences to each network media channel.